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Vol. 5, p. 105

To the Inhabitants of the State of Vermont.

Friends and Fellow-Countrymen,

Pursuant to instructions received from the Governor and Council of this State, to wait on the Hon. the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire, at their Session in March last, I waited on them; and at the request of several Gentlemen in this State, I now publish a short and concise account of some matters that concern this State.

I arrived at Exeter on the evening of the 19th of March, and the next morning delivered the public writings (that were entrusted me by the Governor and Council of this State) to the President, and they were read in Council; and the President informed me, that General Bailey and Mr. Phelps were to have a hearing before both Houses in the afternoon of the 23d, in a matter respecting the Grants on both sides of Connecticut River, when it would be proper for me to attend, and and the papers brought by me, exhibited and read.

Being favored with a copy of a petition to that Hon. Court, by General Bailey and Mr. Phelps, I was excited to publish a handbill on the 22d; some of which I herewith exhibit.—— The before-named Gentlemen not arriving, on the morning of the 25th I desired the papers by me delivered the President, might be read in the House, which was done, and a Committee appointed to take said Papers, and confer with me, and report their opinion thereon. Some Members of the House then moved, that said Committee might go out that afternoon. I informed the House, that I did not move for those papers to be read, to hurry a determination; but that I viewed it of consequence to both Governments, and that the Hon. House might be possessed of the whole matter, and have time for mature deliberation thereon; And that as General Bailey and Mr. Phelps had preferred a petition to the Hon Assembly, previous to my arrival, I wished

they might have an opportunity to support their petition, 3
as the determination of one case would in some measure determine the other; — and that all parties might be satisfied, desired that the determination might be suspended until said Gentlemen arrived — which was done.

Read next ~~in~~ dorsal said petition, which is in these words, viz.

To the Hon. the President in Council, and the Representatives of the State of New Hampshire, in General Assembly convened: The Subscribers hereto beg leave to represent, — That a large number of charters of incorporation of certain tracts of land, were formerly issued from their Excellencies Benning Wentworth and John Wentworth, Esqrs. in the name of the King of Great Britain, lying and being west of the Mason Grant, and east of a North line drawn from the north west corner of the now States of the Massachusetts Bay to Lake Champlain, and from thence to the latitude of forty-five degrees — That in the year 1764, the aforesaid King of Great Britain, in violation of his contract with the Grantees, and in an arbitrary manner, passed a decree that there should be a division of the aforesaid Grants between the then Province of New York and New Hampshire; to which decree ~~the inhabitants~~ of said Grants were then, and have ever since, been averse, as they were thereby deprived of privileges which they of right claimed, and in their settlement reasonably expected within the jurisdiction of New-Hampshire. — That the ~~inhabitants~~ aforesaid, since the declaration of Independence, view themselves at liberty to connect in one body politic, or unite with any other State — That they are now in general desirous of an union with the State of New Hampshire — That the Representatives of the People, in in Assembly, on the 20th of October last, voted, That a defence of the rights of the people be stated by a Committee appointed for that purpose; and that answers to some

letters, &c, be drafted by said Committee.— Also, that offers be made to the State of New Hampshire, either to settle a boundary line between said New Hampshire and the Grants, by a Committee mutually chosen, or in such way as Congress may point out; or to make an offer of the whole of said Grants to New Hampshire.

That on the 9th day of December last, by a Convention of Committees delegated by the inhabitants of said Grants it was voted, That proposals of an union with said New Hampshire be made to the Assembly of said State.

In consequence whereof, we the Subscribers, being duly authorized for that purpose, do now propose to this honorable Court, that the whole of said Grants be connected and confederated with said State of New Hampshire, receiving and enjoying equal privileges and immunities with the good people of said State.

Dated at Newbury, this 17th day of March, 1779.

Jacob Bailey,
Davenport Phelps.

A true copy of the original petition, preferred to the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire, at their session in March, 1779. Attest, Noah Emery, Clerk, D.R.

An extract of the proceedings of the Cornish Convention, which authorized said Gentlemen to make overtures to New Hampshire, containing the proposals of said Convention to said State, is as follows, viz.

1 To agree upon and settle a dividing line between New Hampshire and the Grants, by Committees from each party, or otherwise, as they may mutually agree.

Or, 2. That the parties mutually agree in the appointment of a Court of Commissioners of disinterested judicious men of the three other New England States, to hear and determine the dispute.

Or, 3. That the whole dispute with New Hampshire be submitted to the decision of Congress, in such way and

manner, as Congress, in their wisdom shall prescribe.

Provided always, that the Grants be allowed equal privileges with the other party, in espousing and conducting their cause.

Or, 4. If the controversy cannot be settled on either of the foregoing articles, and in case we can agree with New Hampshire upon a plan of Government, inclusive of extent of territory, that we unite with them, and become with them one entire State, rejecting the arbitrary line drawn on the western bank of Connecticut River, by the King of Great Britain in 1764.

The reader is now invited to take a retrospective view of said Petition and Extract, and candidly determine for himself how far said petition comports with the directions from said Convention.

It is to be observed, that there were but eight towns on the west side of Connecticut River represented in said Convention; yet General Bailey *had the audacity to declare in said petition, that they were duly authorized by the inhabitants of said Grants, to make such an overture to New Hampshire; and that said inhabitants were in general desirous of an union with said State.

But to return to the Assembly of New Hampshire ——— General Bailey and Mr. Phelps arrived in town the evening of the 29th, and on the 30th, had a hearing before both Houses, and the papers which I had before delivered the President were read; and it was moved, that a Committee should be appointed from both Houses, to take up the whole matter; and the Council withdrew. The House proceeded to chuse a Committee, which was joined by the Hon. Board, and the parties were notified to attend.

The Committee reported to the House (in the forenoon

*I omit Mr. Phelps' name, as he is an inhabitant on the east side of Connecticut River.

of the 2d of April) for the Assembly of New Hampshire to lay a claim to the whole of the Grants, on this principle, viz. Not to hinder the State of Vermont from being established as a State by Congress, but rather to help the inhabitants, in case the Yorkers should hinder said State from being established by Congress; and that New Hampshire should exercise jurisdiction to the west bank of Connecticut River. —— After a small debate on the report, one of the Members of the House desired to know whether said report was agreeable to me or not. I then informed the Hon. House, that it was by no means agreeable to me, — and the consideration of the report was laid over until afternoon, when the House resumed the consideration of said report. —— Mr. Phelps spoke in favor of said report, and I spoke largely against it; in which I observed, That I did not doubt of the good disposition of New Hampshire towards Vermont — that it was near fifteen years since New Hampshire had laid any claim to the Grants west of Connecticut River; during which time the inhabitants had suffered all the evils that a Colden, Dunmore, Tryon, and a Clinton, together with a clan of New York land jobbers could invent and inflict; but that a glorious spirit of freedom stimulated the Green Mountain Boys (in former days) to draw and wield their swords in defence of their persons and properties, — that they had hitherto baffled all their diabolical machinations against them —— that the State of Vermont had nothing of consequence to fear from New York — that it had been the wisdom of the Assembly of said State, to appoint three Agents to wait on Congress as often as the nature of the case might require, who would be able to give seasonable information, should any difficulty arise at Congress — That I was apprehensive that such a claim (altho' it seemed well meant) would tend to make, or rather continue some internal broils in the State of Vermont; and therefore wished said claim might be suspended to some future day. —— And the

consideration of said report was laid over to the next Session of said Assembly.

Since my arrival from New Hampshire to this place, have been informed that Remonstrances against this State were signed and signing in a few towns, by the instigation of some of the protesting Members of the late Council and Assembly of this State, in order to be preferred to the Grand Council of America.—— —that a number (nearly similar to the others) have been lately printed for that purpose, one of which I have before me, in which I observe several gross mistakes, but shall not take notice of any but what are contained in the fourth paragraph of said Remonstrance, which is in these words, viz.

"4. That they have, contrary to the resolve of Congress, proceeded to confiscate many and large estates belonging to persons called Tories, and have disposed of them accordingly, and the avails appropriated to many frivolous and unnecessary purposes, without depositing any part thereof in the Continental Loan Offices."

Whether it be right or wrong to confiscate the estates of Tories, I do not take upon me at this time to determine, but have to observe, that those very Gentlemen were active with the other Members of the Council and Assembly, in forming a Court of Confiscation, and confiscating the estates of Tories, and have assisted in disposing of the avails of such estates.—— As the money has passed thro' my hands, shall give some account of it—— a very considerable part of it has been paid to the brave Officers and Soldiers who have served in the defence of this and the United States,— and I have now in my office upwards of Sixteen Thousand Dollars in Continental Loan Office Notes.

I am well informed that several of the Members of the Grand Council of America, do not hesitate to give it as their opinions in public company, that the State

Vermont, of right, ought to be a State, and that in due time it will be established as such.

As the Laws of this State were committed to my care, to see to the printing of; have to inform, That the Printers have been some time engaged in that business, and will not attend to any other until that is accomplished: But to print them neatly will take a considerable time, and cannot be done so soon as was expected; but depend that they will be ready to deliver to the Assembly at their next Session in Windsor.

I am, friends and countrymen, your most obedient humble Servant,

Ira Allen.

Norwich, April 19th, 1779.

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Vt. S. P. 237.

To the Inhabitants of the State of Vermont.

Friends & Fellow Citizens, 13 July 1779

Pursuent to appointment by the Legislature, and instructions from the Governor and Council of this State, I waited on the General Court of New Hampshire at their Session in June last, and delivered the public writings intrusted me by the Governor of this State, to the President, which were read in Council and sent to the House for their inspection. The House after reading and considering the same, resolved into a Committee to take into consideration the whole matter respecting Vermont, which was concurred by the Hon. Board, and Thursday the 24th of June, the Committee met in the Assembly Chamber, and the resolves of Congress of the 1st & 2d of June respecting the premises and several other papers were read, among which was the appointment of Col. Peter Olcott, and Beza Woodward Esq. impowering them as a Committee from the Committee of the Cornish Convention, to use their influence with the General Court of New Hampshire, to extend their claim and jurisdiction over the whole of the New Hampshire Grants. A question was put to said Committee by a member of the House, how many towns were represented in said Cornish Convention, on the West side of Connecticat River? Answer. About twenty two in the whole, and about half of them west of said River. Said Committee then proceeded to exhibit the returns made on a hand bill formed by the Committee of the Cornish Convention on the 23d of April last, and sent to the several towns in this State for the express purpose of getting the numbers of the inhabitants that were willing New Hampshire should extend their claim and jurisdiction over the whole of the Grants. Their returns were sixty five persons. They also alledged that they had mislaid or lost the returns from one town in which there were one hundred and twenty families, and but four persons acted in opposition to connecting with New Hampshire. That the reason why more persons had not acted on

said Hand Bill. that they had not circulated thro' the Grants, by reason of their falling into the hands of the New States Men, who secreted or burnt them. That for eighty miles up and down Connecticut River, there were but two members attended the Assembly of Vermont. That so far as they had been able to collect the sentiments of the people, they were very generally, on the east side of the Green Mountain and a number on the west side said Mountains; for connecting with New Hampshire. Then refering to the members of the House who lived contiguous to Connecticut River, to inform what they knew respecting the matter. Judge Marsh then arose, and with a degree of warmth asserted that to his certain knowledge, two thirds of the inhabitants of the Grants west of the River, would hold up both hands to connect with New Hampshire. A few more of the members of the House, in conversation with the other members, had endeavoured to insinuate tenets nearly similar. I then proceeded to make my defence; in which I observed that it was those gentlemen were at a loss to determine how many towns were represented in the Cornish Convention, as one was the Clerk, and both members of the same: that there were but eight towns west of the River represented in said Convention. That the town said Committee had represented, as having one hundred and twenty families, was the town of Norwich, in which Col. Olcott lived. That I was informed by several respectable gentlemen of that vicinity, that all due pains were taken to convene the Legal voters on town meeting day; some refused to attend, as they would not act against the State of Vermont; others were tired of town meetings, and neglected to attend; in all thirty one persons met; twenty seven for New Hampshire, and four for Vermont. That I had as good, if not a better right to count those who did not attend the meeting, for Vermont, as they for New Hampshire.

That said hand bills had been sent into the County of Bennington in several places, and that the people there did not take so much notice of them as to secrete or burn them; That I was knowing to said hand bills circulating thro' a considerable part of Cumberland County; that in several towns where they had town meetings on other business, said hand bills were read, and the towns unanimously to have nothing to do with them., in other the select men said they knew nothing of "F. Marsh Chairman," and if they called a town meeting at his request, by the same rule, they might have a town meeting every day, if any gentleman directed it. therefore they would have nothing to do with it, That by this open and public trial they had proved that General Bayley, at least, was mistaken when he asserted in his petition (prefered to the General Assembly of New Hampshire, at their session in March last) That the inhabitants of the Grants were in general desirous of a union with New Hampshire. That the eighty miles mentioned by the said Committee, where there were but two members attended the Assembly of Vermont, was true, but part of that distance was woods, consequently no member could from thence attend, and some of the other part was thinly settled, and several towns joined to chuse one member; but in that distance, and for more than eighty miles more down the river through a settled country there were but four towns on the river, where they had got so much as one man to act in favor of Connecting with New Hampshire. and no so much as one fourth part of the Legal Voters in those four towns a very small minority inclined in favor of connecting with New Hampshire.

I then proceeded to treat largely on the fundamental arguments, viz; the change of jurisdiction in 1774; the proclamation issued by his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq. dated about Feb. 1765; the heads of the grievances the inhabitants of Vermont had suffered from New York since 1764, to the present Era; Expence in sending agents to

Great Britain; New Hampshire refusing to exert herself to recover her jurisdiction, although often requested by the inhabitants of the Grants, when they were put to the greatest extremity by New York; the right the people had to assume Government, since the present revolution; constitution and Code of laws established; affairs of government; together with the freemen of the State, sworn to support the constitution thereof, as established by Convention; Letters from the General Court of New Hampshire in November last, giving their full approbation to the State of Vermont's being established by Congress as such, provided the people there, as a political body would dissolve all connections with sixteen towns east of Connecticut River, which they alledged to be a part of New Hampshire. That every engagement on the part of Vermont to New Hampshire was fulfilled; That it was one thing for said State to lay jurisdictional Claim to the territory of Vermont, and another to exercise jurisdiction.

The Committee of both Houses dissolved, and the House resumed the subject, and voted to lay claim to the jurisdiction of the whole of the New Hampshire Grants, to the westward of Connecticut River; Nevertheless, allowing Congress should establish the State of Vermont, that in such case the State of New Hampshire will acquiesce therein, and that said State should not extend jurisdiction further west than the west bank of the Connecticut River, till otherwise directed by Congress.

Concurred by the Hon. Board.

The General Court then chose a Committee to wait on the Committee of Congress, supposing they would come to the county of Grafton.

Although this proceedure of the Court of New Hampshire doth not appear to be to the disadvantage of Vermont, but rather as a bar against New York; Yet I must not omit to observe That there are a number of the Members of that Court, who would be exceeding glad

to have the territory of Vermont added to New Hampshire. Their principle motives to me appear to be these, viz: That the addition of the territory of Vermont to that State, would most certainly bring the seat of Government into another Neighbourhood; but a greater inducement, is the unappropriated and tory landy, within this State, which, if added to New Hampshire, would help them in the heavy lift of paying taxes. If said lands are a sufficient motive for some part of the General Court of New Hampshire, to wish to enlarge their Government, for a share in them, surely it would not be for the interest of the inhabitants of this State, to take in so many partners on that footing; but to the interest of Each individual to oppose such an ungenerous extension of New Hampshire, and warrantable for the following reasons. — That the State of Vermont is at this time formidable against its old adversary New York, and has little or nothing to fear from her, in arms, or influence at Congress. In former days, when under British administration, for any set of men to rise and oppose the authority was thought a most daring thing. People in general were under a Strong traditional bias, in favor of government, and but few, how much so ever they might be oppressed, had that fortitude and patriotism, that they dare appear in arms to defend their just rights in opposition to the undue exercise of Law, when attempted to be exercised by Legal officers of Justice, and when they did, seldom failed of loosing some of their lives, and being vanquished by their adversaries. Witness Nobleton, Livingston, Manor, Bateman Patent &c — In those days the Green Mountain Boys were put to the sad alternative of rising in arms and opposing the Legislature, and executive authority of New York, or of giving up their landy, and possessions to the land-jobbers of said Province. Then the Green Mountain Boys were few in number, settled in a wilderness country, generally poor, but little more than the heavens to protect them and their families from the

inclemency of the weather, the justice of their cause not publicly known, a rich, powerful, and intriguing province to contend with, who did not fail to send their emissaries amongst them, in order to make divisions, by commissions, and every other way in their power. In short no kind of bribery or corruption was too mean for them to be guilty of. Then were the lives, liberties, and properties, of the people at Stake. In this situation, a few small companies of Green Mountain Boys (stimulated by the same patriotic spirit of freedom which has since shined with a superior lustre, from one end of this Continent to the other) baffled all the diabolical machinations of their inveterate adversaries for more than seven years together. Can this be accounted for without acknowledging the propitious agency of the Deity? In those days repeated applications were made to New Hampshire, to exert herself to obtain the jurisdiction again; But her language was then nearly similar to that of righteous Job; "for it was the King gave, and the King had taken away, and blessed be the Name of the King." From that day to this, said State hath not exerted herself to obtain jurisdiction again.

It was by virtue of a Royal edict that New Hampshire ever had a right to jurisdiction to the westward of Connecticut River, and by the same authority, in 1764, the jurisdiction was curtailed to the west bank of Connecticut; and the Assembly of said province did then acquiesce therein. The members thereof did publicly assest that they had no desire that their province should extend any further than said river; and that they would not do any thing to obtain jurisdiction over a territory they did not want. Had the people then submitted to the jurisdiction of New York, and since the present revolution associated with them, and assisted in forming a Constitution, Establishing Courts &c. the inhabitants would now have been effectually bound down to the jurisdiction of said State, and it would have been now as much out of the power of New Hampshire

to extend their jurisdiction to their ancient western limits, as for the Massachusetts Bay not to extend their jurisdiction to their ancient northern limits, which I believe none are now so hardy as to think of —

By what has already been elucidated it appears that the inhabitants of the Grants, by their own exertions have saved themselves from the heavy yoke of bondage, which New York had prepared for them, and their posterity, and that the right of New Hampshire (so late in the day) to the territory of Vermont, must be very inconsiderable. And now for a few of the members of the General Court, with the assistance of a few individuals to the east and west of Connecticut River, (for sinister views) to think of breaking up the State of Vermont, and connecting the territory thereof again to New Hampshire, is an idle whim; a mere chimera. It is well known that by reason of oppression from Great Britain, America revolted from her, and published to the world a list of grievances, for the vindication of their conduct. In like manner the inhabitants of the now State of Vermont, published a list of grievances, received from New York, which to me appear as numerous and aggravating as those this Continent has against Great Britain.

All governmental power was given by God himself to the people; therefore the inhabitants of the now State of Vermont, did associate together and assume to themselves that inestimable blessing of Heaven, civil government.— This they did upon the same ground, original basis, or great rule of eternal right, that a number of the present powers of Europe revolted from the several kingdoms to which they paid allegiance, and on which the United States of America revolted from Great Britain, and assumed to themselves civil government. The inhabitants of Vermont for more than ten years last past, have nobly exerted themselves for the defence of their liberties and property, and in the present Revolution did most heartily join their brethren for the joint defence of the liberties and property of the Americans in general;

and have distinguished themselves to the world as a truly brave and enterprising people; and it is conceded to by the United States, that they have done their full proportion in this war; consequently they are entitled to equal privileges with the rest of their brethren in America.

They have not delegated their natural right of Legislation out of their own handy. Their numbers and territory are sufficient for a State; and they have now as good a right to govern their own internal Police, as any one of the United States have theirs. By their noble exertions in the cause of Liberty, they have acquired the esteem and confidence of the United States, merited a right to the articles of Confederacy, and a seat in the Grand Council of America. These precious privileges, I conceive, will be the ultimate reward of their many expensive toils, battles, and hazzards; and for the attainment of which they have suffered such an uncommon share of concomitant evils, and as I have reason to apprehend, the Grand Council of America is composed of as great Patriots, as any on earth, doubt not but that in due time they will grant us our reasonable request. Indeed it is for the interest of United States to do it, as soon as the circumstances of the Continent will admit: therefore we need not hurry them. It is an ancient maxim that representation and taxation should go together, and until this State is represented in Congress, no Continental tax can justly be laid on it.

Is it not strange that any of the inhabitants of this State, who have perused the Constitution and Laws, and duly considered the advantages that would accrue to each individual by being and remaining a distinct State, would be willing to give up those privileges and connect with any other State? Surely the Constitution is upon the most liberal foundation, the laws are well calculated to preserve inviolate the liberties and property of each individual. The act of oblivion settles

past controversies, and puts those who made the laws, and those who opposed them on one footing, each having a right to the protection of the same, and as one common interest runs thro' the whole, hope that past animosities will be forgotten, and all join hand in hand to support their common rights and interests.

The circumstances of this State, in some respects is different from every other State on the Continent. It is not in debt. I have as much money in my office, as is due from the State, except what I have taken in upon loan. To balance which, I have in my office about as much money in Continental Loan Office notes, so that on a ballance the State is little or none in debt; excepting what may be supposed to be this State's proportion of the Continental debt. (If any individual in the State is not satisfied with this State's accounts, I invite him to wait on me at my office, and I will exhibit the public books of debt and Credit, for the proof of the assertion.) But there are several valuable tracts of land, the property of this State. How far those lands will go towards paying the Continental debt, do not at this time take upon me to determine.

Every one of the United States have emitted large Sums of money, some part of which has been called in by giving States Loan office notes for the same, which are yet due. (By this and other proceedings of the several States, they are in debt. The inhabitants of the respective States, have received the benefit of such debts, where they contracted them. But the inhabitants of this State have received no benefit from such debts, and why they should any of them, wish to connect with any such State, when they know they will be brought in to pay a part of all such arrearages is a thing almost unaccountable.

As there are four public rights of land in each town in this State, one for the first settled minister one for schools, one for the first settled church minister, and one for propagating the gospel in foreign parts, I

propose for consideration whether it would not be advisable for the Assembly to direct each town to lease out the two latter, and the avails to be by each town, appropriated for the support of the Gospel in the same.

Lastly, I propose to the State two Matters, which are facts, which I believe will not be disputed by any; from which I shall ask two questions.

1st Fact first. That certain fraternity of gentlemen contiguous to Connecticut River, after the inhabitants of the Grants had declared themselves to be a free State, by the name of Vermont, did assert that said State had a just right to be a State, and that the Grants east of Connecticut River, were unconnected with any State, and had a just right to join said State.

Question first. Did the dissolution of the Union (so called) lessen the right the State of Vermont had to be a State before the said Union took place? If it did, in what manner?

2d Fact second. It was also asserted by said gentlemen that New Hampshire had no right, title, or color of jurisdiction to the west of the Mason line: That the Grants west of the Mason line, and east of Connecticut River, had a good right to form themselves into a State, and would do it, if the State of Vermont would not take them into union. The foregoing assertions being granted

Question Second. What propriety is there now in requesting New Hampshire to extend their Claim and jurisdiction over the territory of Vermont.

I am Friends and Country Men Your
Obedient and ever faithful Servant
Ira Allen.

Pownal July 13th 1779.

I beg leave to subjoin the following copy of a letter from the Hon. Committee of Congress to the Committee of the Yorkers in the lower part of Cumberland County.

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Bennington June 23d. 1779.

Gentlemen,

The Subscribers are here at present as members of a Committee of Congress, sent for the express purpose of endeavoiering to bring about an amicable ~~settlement~~, of the differences between the State of New York and the Inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants, who have formed themselves into a State, called by them the State of Vermont.

We have understood that you and others of the State of New York have declined taking your turn of Militia duty, for the defence of the frontiers, because the requisition was made under the authority of the State of Vermont; and that you have met with some trouble on this account.

We have therefore sent this to inform you, that we hope there will be, by interposition of Congress, a happy accomodation of all differences in a short time. In the mean while we have obtained a promise of Governor Chittenden that you shall not be molested till Matters are finally settled, and we have engaged to write to you, voluntarily, and freely, to raise your full proportion of men, whenever your neighbors are called, and you are informed of this either by Continental Officers, or the New State, till such time as you have special directions from the Governor of New York, which we hope to obtain for you on our return home. This we are confident you will readily comply with, as otherwise, people will be tempted to impute your conduct to disaffection to the cause of the United States.

We hope that you will understand that the protection and forbearance which is promised us on your behalf is to be considered as the only condition of your cordially complying with our request, and in every respect behaving quietly and orderly while the measures for pacification are on foot.

We are &c.

John Wetherspoon

Sam. F. Allee

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State of Vermont } In Council, Windsor, June 4th, 1779.

Agreeable to your appointment, by the General Assembly of this State, you are hereby authorized and impowered an Agent to confer with the Hon^ble the Council and General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire, on any political matter that may concern the Interest, Peace and Trangecility of Both States; and in Special to settle the boundary line of the respective Governments, as it is apprehended by this Council that such a Settlement would be attended with the Important Consequences of Luceting the Schism now subsisting, the design and tending of which is to subvert the Authority of both Governments

by order of Council
Thos. Chittenden

Tom^as Ira Allen, Esq.

(Copy)